DETAILED ACTION

1. This communication is responsive to Amendment filed 3/14/2011.

2. Claims 99, 101, 103-118 and 139-144 are pending in this application. Claims 99, 103, 106, and 113 are amended, claim 102 is cancelled and claims 139-144 are new. This action is made Final.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 99, 101, 103-107, and 109-118 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cohn (US 5,712,995) in view of Oran et al. ("Oran", US 5,757,371).

As per claim 99, Cohn teaches a method for arranging a desired number of activated windows of information for display on a screen connected to a computer, wherein the desired number is the number of activated windows to arrange for display on the screen in a particular format, and wherein the computer activates windows, the method comprising:

choosing the desired number of activated windows to arrange on the screen in the particular format (Fig.23A, col.29, lines 1-5; col.35, lines 29-33; col.41, lines 7-9; col.47, lines 21-21; *user chooses desired layout of windows via partitioning the display into a desired number of panes wherein the applications will reside*)

identifying activated windows for display, wherein the number of activated windows identified for display equals the desired number of activated windows to be displayed in the

particular format, wherein the desired number of activated windows to be displayed is greater than one (col.43, lines 5-6, 9-10, 12-14, 16-17, 36-45; *identified activated windows are displayed in desired number of pane chosen by user*),

arranging the identified windows on the screen for display in the particular format, wherein the identified windows are visibly arranged (col.43, lines 5-6, 9-10, 12-14, 16-17, 36-45; *identified activated windows are displayed in desired number of pane and layout chosen by user*);

recognizing one or more activated windows which have not been identified for display and will not be arranged for display on the screen in the particular format (col.42, line 64-col.43, line 5; *inactive panes are displayed as tabs or icons*); and

wherein each time a new window is activated the steps of identifying and arranging are repeated, (col.43, lines 5-6, 9-10, 12-14, 16-17, 36-45; *activation of an inactive window causes window to be arranged in the desired layout by replacing it with another window*), and wherein the new window is not one of the identified windows and is not one of the recognized windows (col.35, lines 50-67; *new application can be associated with an untenanted pane or swapped with a tenanted pane*)

However, Cohen does not teach wherein the most recently activated windows are identified for display. Oran teaches a method of displaying up to a specified number of documents wherein only the most recently activated documents are displayed (Oran, Fig.16B, col.9, lines 55-60; *up to 15 of the most recently used documents are displayed at a time*). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to include Oran's teaching with Cohn's method in order to view the latest information.

As per claim 101, the method of Cohn and Oran teaches the method wherein the choosing the desired number of activated windows to arrange on the screen comprises choosing a default value (Cohn, col.46, lines 44-46; *default may be set for display configurations*).

As per claim 103, the method of Cohn and Oran teaches the method wherein an activated window not identified for display may be represented on the screen with a representative display, the method further comprising representing one or more recognized windows on the screen with a representative display (Cohn, col.42, lines 51-52; col.43, lines 2-3; 25-26; *inactive panes are displayed as tabs or icons).*

As per claim 104, the method of Cohn and Oran teaches the method wherein the representative display is an icon which graphically represents the recognized window and wherein the icon is displayed simultaneously with an identified window (Cohn, Fig.23A; *icons 993-996 simultaneously displayed with identified windows 990-991*; col.42, lines 51-52; col.43, lines 2-3; 25-26; *inactive panes are displayed as tabs or icons*).

As per claim 105, the method of Cohn and Oran teaches the method further comprising minimizing the recognized window (Cohn, col.42, lines 51-52; col.43, lines 2-3; 25-26; *inactive panes are displayed as minimized tabs or icons*).

As per claim 106, Cohn teaches a method for displaying active information windows on a screen, wherein the information windows are generated by a computer and the screen is operably connected to the computer, and wherein the information windows may be displayed in two or more formats, comprising:

identifying at least two active windows, wherein the identified windows will be displayed in a first format on the screen (Fig.23A, col.29, lines 1-5; col.35, lines 29-33; col.41, lines 7-9;

col.47, lines 21-21; *user chooses desired format of windows via partitioning the display into a desired number of panes wherein the applications will reside*);

recognizing at least one active window, wherein the recognized windows will be displayed in a second format on the screen, and wherein none of the identified windows are recognized (col.42, lines 51-52; col.43, lines 2-3; 25-26; *inactive panes are displayed as minimized tabs or icons*); and

generating a display for the screen for viewing identified windows and recognized windows, wherein a first format display is generated for each of the identified windows (Fig.23A, *identified windows 990-991 displayed*; col.43, lines 12-14; 22-23), wherein a second format display is generated for each of the recognized windows, and wherein the second format is different from the first format (Fig.23A, *recognized windows 993-996 are displayed as minimized tabs or icons* col.42, lines 51-52; col.43, lines 2-3; 25-26), comprising

arranging the first format displays and second format displays for display on the screen, wherein the computer is used in the arranging step (col.43, lines 36-45); and

repeating the steps of identifying, recognizing and generating when a new window is activated (col.43, lines 5-6, 9-10, 12-14, 16-17, 36-45; *activation of an inactive window causes window to be arranged in the desired layout by replacing it with another window*), wherein the new window is not an identified window and is not a recognized window (col.35, lines 50-67; *new application can be associated with an untenanted pane or swapped with a tenanted pane*).

However, Cohen does not teach wherein the at least two active windows identified are most recently activated. Oran teaches a method of displaying up to a specified number of documents wherein only the most recently activated documents are displayed (Oran, Fig.16B,

col.9, lines 55-60; *up to 15 of the most recently used documents are displayed at a time*). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to include Oran's teaching with Cohn's method in order to view the latest information.

As per claim 107, the method of Cohn and Oran teaches the method wherein the steps occur automatically each time a new window is activated (Cohn, col.43, lines 36-45, *when a minimized window is activated it is automatically replaced with a currently active window*).

As per claim 109, the method of Cohn and Oran teaches the method wherein the first format displays are arranged vertically side-by-side (Cohn, Fig.23A, *identified windows 990-991 arranged vertically side-by-side).*

As per claim 110, the method of Cohn and Oran teaches the method wherein the first format displays are arranged horizontally (Cohn, Fig.23A, *identified windows 990-991 arranged horizontally*).

As per claim 111, the method of Cohn and Oran teaches the method wherein the generating step further comprises minimizing the recognized windows (Cohn, Fig.23A, *recognized windows 993-996 are displayed as minimized tabs or icons* col.42, lines 51-52; col.43, lines 2-3; 25-26).

As per claim 112, the method of Cohn and Oran teaches the method wherein a database manager is used, and wherein the step of generating further comprises accessing a database of information and using the accessed database information to generate the first format displays (Cohn, col.41, lines 51-55).

As per claim 113, Cohn teaches a database management system using windows of information and auto-arranging of the windows, wherein each time a previously inactive window

is activated the system autoarranges the windows for display on a screen (col.43, lines 36-45, *when an inactive window is activated it is automatically replaced with a currently active window*), comprising:

a memory, wherein data for use in generating information windows is stored (Fig.5, *memory 130*; col.10, lines 27-31);

a processor, operably coupled to the memory (col.10, lines 26-27), that auto-arranges the windows of information, wherein the windows of information are automatically arranged (col.43, lines 36-45, *when a minimized window is activated it is automatically replaced with a currently active window*), the processor comprising:

means for generating windows of information using data from the memory (col.41, lines 51-55); and

means for auto-arranging windows of information into an arranged format, wherein more than one window may be arranged (col.41, lines 51-55), and wherein each time a previously inactivate window is activated, all the active windows are arranged so that the arrangement of windows changes each time a previously inactivate window is activated (col.43, lines 36-45, *when a minimized window is activated it is automatically replaced with a currently active window*), and wherein a first group of activated windows is displayed in a first format (col.43, lines 5-6, 9-10, 12-14, 16-17, 36-45; *identified activated windows are displayed in desired number of pane and layout chosen by user*) and a second group of active windows is displayed in a second format (Fig.23A, *recognized windows 993-996 are displayed as minimized tabs or icons* col.42, lines 51-52; col.43, lines 2-3; 25-26) and the previously inactive window is not

taken from the first or second group (col.35, lines 50-67; *new application can be associated with an untenanted pane or swapped with a tenanted pane*); and

a screen, operably coupled to the processor (Fig.5, *display 140*; col.10, lines 34-37), wherein the screen displays the information windows in an arranged format (Fig.23A).

However, Cohen does not teach wherein the most recently activated windows are identified for display. Oran teaches a method of displaying up to a specified number of documents wherein only the most recently activated documents are displayed (Oran, Fig.16B, col.9, lines 55-60; *up to 15 of the most recently used documents are displayed at a time*). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to include Oran's teaching with Cohn's method in order to view the latest information.

As per claim 114, the method of Cohn and Oran teaches the database management system wherein the means for auto-arranging windows comprises:

means for determining windows to be arranged in the first format and windows to be arranged in a second format, wherein at least one window is determined to be arranged in the first format (Cohn, Fig.23A, *windows 990-991 displayed in first format arranged side-by-side; windows 993-996 displayed in second format as minimized tabs or icons*).

As per claim 115, the method of Cohn and Oran teaches the database management system wherein the windows determined to be arranged in the second format are represented by graphical icons and are displayed in a lower portion of one or more of the first format windows (Cohn, Fig.23A, *windows 993-996 are displayed as minimized tabs or icons*).

As per claim 116, the method of Cohn and Oran teaches the database management system wherein the arranged format is a targeted format chosen by a user of the database

management system, further comprising means for choosing a target format (Cohn, col.41, lines 58-65).

As per claim 117, the method of Cohn and Oran teaches the database management system wherein the user may enter a customized target format, further comprising a keyboard (Cohn, col.10, lines 31-33), wherein the customized target format may be entered (Cohn, col.41, lines 58-65; Fig.23A, col.29, lines 1-5; col.35, lines 29-33; col.41, lines 7-9; col.47, lines 21-22; *user chooses desired layout of windows via partitioning the display into a desired number of panes wherein the applications will reside*)

As per claim 118, the method of Cohn and Oran teaches the database management system wherein the user may choose from several different formats, the data management system further comprising means for displaying a list of formats to be chosen (Cohn, col.41, lines 58-65; *predefined layouts may be chosen by user*).

5. Claim 108 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cohn (US 5,712,995) and Oran et al. ("Oran", US 5,757,371) in view of Conrad et al. ("Conrad", US 5,956,030).

As per claim 108, the method of Cohn and Oran teaches the method of claim 106, wherein the second format is graphic icons (Cohn, Fig.23A, *icons 993-996*) and wherein the method further comprises arranging the graphic icons, wherein the graphic icons are arranged in an orderly fashion (Cohn, Fig.23A, *icons 99—996 arranged on bottom*). However, the method of Cohn and Oran does not teach the graphic icons to be arranged to overlay on the first format display. Conrad teaches a method of managing windows wherein icons are displayed

overlapping windows shown in a different format from those of the icons (Conrad, Fig.2, 3, 5). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time of the invention to include Conrad's teaching with the method of Cohn and Oran in order to conserve display space and view both types of windows simultaneously.

6. Claim 139, 141 and 143 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cohn (US 5,712,995) and Oran et al. ("Oran", US 5,757,371) in view of Collins et al. ("Collins", US 5,781,714).

As per claim 139, the method of Cohn and Oran teaches the system of claim 113 to display various applications such as network applications (Cohn, col.47, lines 25-30) however does not explicitly teach active text, displayed in two or more of the information windows, comprising a uniform resource locator. Collins teaches a method of displaying application windows containing active text comprising a URL (Collins, col.27, lines 45-60). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time of the invention to include Collin's teaching with the method of Cohn and Oran in order to find related information.

Claims 141 and 143 are similar in scope to claim 139, and are therefore rejected under similar rationale.

7. Claim 140, 142 and 144 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cohn (US 5,712,995) and Oran et al. ("Oran", US 5,757,371) in view of Southgate (US 5,487,143).

As per claim 140, the method of Cohn and Oran teaches the system of claim 113 further comprising: means for size adjusting (Cohn, col.44, lines 44-56). However, the method of Cohn and Oran does not teach wherein a size of an information window is based on content of data. Southgate teaches a method of arranging windows wherein the sizes are adjusted based on the information within the window (Southgate, col.7, lines 31-42). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time of the invention to include Southgate's teaching with the method of Cohn and Oran in order to view the information with maximum efficiency.

Claims 142 and 144 are similar in scope to claim 140, and are therefore rejected under similar rationale.

Response to Arguments

8. Applicant's arguments filed 3/14/2011 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant argued Oran does not teach the most recently activated windows are identified for display.

The Examiner disagrees because Oran teaches the most recent documents are identified which is a method of organization that may be combined with Cohn to achieve the claimed invention.

Conclusion

9. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Communications

10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sajeda Muhebbullah whose telephone number is **(571) 272-4065**. The examiner can normally be reached on Tuesday/Wednesday and alt. Mondays from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm (EST).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Dennis Chow, can be reached on (571) 272-7767.

The central fax number for the organization where correspondence for this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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